

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A composition comprising a combination of a first isolated Group B streptococcus (GBS) antigen and a second isolated GBS antigen, wherein:

the first isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 80 antigen or a fragment of the GBS 80 antigen, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 and wherein the fragment of the GBS antigen comprises an immunogenic epitope; and

the second isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 322 antigen or a fragment of the GBS 322 antigen, wherein the GBS 322 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:38 and wherein the fragment of the GBS 322 antigen comprises an immunogenic epitope,

wherein, in an Active Maternal Immunization Assay, GBS-challenged pups from female mice immunized with the combination have an improved survival rate compared with GBS-challenged pups from female mice immunized with a single antigen, wherein the single antigen is not GBS 80.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the survival rate of GBS-challenged pups from the female mice immunized with the combination is at least 2 percentage points higher than the survival rate of GBS-challenged pups from the female mice immunized with the single antigen.

4. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said combination consists of the first isolated GBS antigen and the second isolated GBS antigen.

5. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein said combination further comprises a third isolated GBS antigen.

6. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 5, wherein said combination further comprises a fourth isolated GBS antigen.

7. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 6, wherein said combination further comprises a fifth isolated GBS antigen.

8. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 or an immunogenic fragment thereof.

9. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the fragment of the GBS 80 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:7.

10-13. (canceled)

14. (previously presented) An isolated fusion protein comprising:

a fragment of a GBS 80 antigen, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9; and

a fragment of at least one different GBS antigen selected from the group consisting of GBS 91 set forth as SEQ ID NO:13, GBS 104 set forth as SEQ ID NO:20, GBS 184 set forth as SEQ ID NO:25, C5a peptidase, UDP-N-acetylmuramoylalanine-D-glutamate ligase (Mur D), pyruvate kinase (pyk), Sat D, cyII, GBS 404 set forth as SEQ ID NO:48, GBS 690 set forth as SEQ ID NO:51, and GBS 691 set forth as SEQ ID NO:54.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) The isolated fusion protein of claim 14 wherein said at least one different GBS antigen is GBS 322 set forth as SEQ ID NO:38.

17. (previously presented) The fusion protein of claim 16 consisting essentially of the fragment of the GBS 80 antigen and the fragment of the GBS 322 antigen.

18. (withdrawn) A method for the therapeutic or prophylactic treatment of GBS infection in an animal susceptible to GBS infection comprising administering to said animal a therapeutic or prophylactic amount of the composition of claim 1.

19. (withdrawn) A method for the manufacture of a medicament for raising an immune response against GBS comprising combining a first isolated GBS antigen and a second isolated GBS antigen, wherein:

the first isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 80 antigen or fragment thereof, wherein the GBS 80 antigen comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9; and

the second isolated GBS antigen is a GBS 322 antigen or a fragment thereof, wherein the GBS 322 antigen comprises the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:38.

20. (withdrawn—currently amended) The method of claim 19, further comprising combining a third isolated GBS antigen.

21-27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) A composition comprising:

a first isolated GBS antigen comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:7; and

a second isolated GBS antigen comprising the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:38.

29. (previously presented) The composition of claim 28 wherein the first isolated GBS antigen comprises the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:3.

30. (canceled)